

in which:

A represents thiophene, furan, pyrrole, imidazole, thiazole or oxazole;

β^1 R^1 represents a phenyl group or a 5- to 7-membered heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms selected independently from oxygen, nitrogen or sulfur; said phenyl or heteroaromatic ring being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected independently from halogen, cyano, nitro, $-NR^3R^4$, $-CONR^5R^6$, $-COOR^7$, $-NR^8COR^9$, $-SR^{10}$, $-S(O)_mR^{10}$, $-S(O)_2NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-NR^8SO_2R^{10}$, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, trifluoromethyl, $-(CH_2)_nR^{11}$, $-O(CH_2)_nR^{11}$ or $-OR^{12}$;

R^2 represents hydrogen, halogen, cyano, nitro, $-NR^{13}R^{14}$, $-CONR^{15}R^{16}$, $-COOR^{17}$, $-NR^{18}COR^{19}$, $-S(O)_mR^{20}$, $-S(O)_2NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-NR^{18}SO_2R^{20}$, C_1 - C_2 alkyl, trifluoromethyl, C_2 - C_3 alkenyl, C_2 - C_3 alkynyl, trifluoromethoxy, C_1 - C_2 alkoxy or C_1 - C_2 alkanoyl;

X represents oxygen or sulfur;

each of R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , R^{10} and R^{12} independently represent a hydrogen atom or C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

R^{11} represents $NR^{21}R^{22}$ where R^{21} and R^{22} are independently hydrogen or C_1 - C_6 alkyl optionally substituted by C_1 - C_4 alkoxy; or R^{21} and R^{22} together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered saturated ring optionally containing a further O, S or NR^{23} group where R^{23} is hydrogen or C_1 - C_6 alkyl; or R^{11} represents OR^{24} where R^{24} represents C_1 - C_6 alkyl;

each of R^{13} , R^{14} , R^{15} , R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{18} , R^{19} and R^{20} independently represent a hydrogen atom or C_1 - C_2 alkyl;

m represents an integer 0, 1 or 2;

n represents an integer 2, 3 or 4;

and optical isomers, racemates, and tautomers thereof and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or solvates thereof:

provided that:

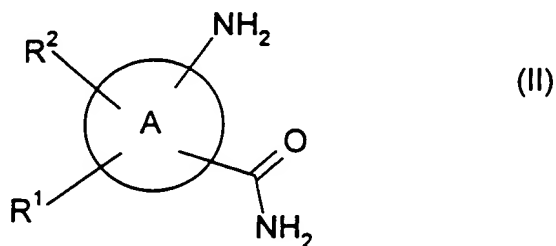
when A represents thiophene, furan or pyrrole, then R¹ is not 4-pyridinyl or 3-pyrazolyl;

and

when A represents oxazole, thiazole or imidazole, then R¹ is not 3-pyridinyl or 5-pyrimidyl.

9 (Twice Amended). A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I), according to claim 1, which comprises:

(a) reaction of a compound of formula (II):

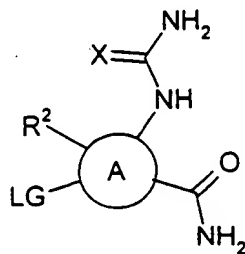


wherein A, R¹ and R² are as defined in Claim 1 with an isocyanate (X = O) or an isothiocyanate (X = S); or

(b) reaction of compound of formula (III) with a compound of formula (IV)

R¹-Metal

(III)



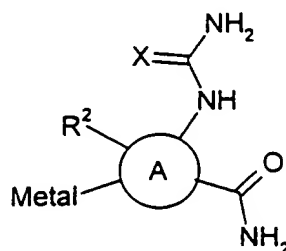
wherein A, X, R¹ and R² are as defined in Claim 1 and LG represents a leaving group; or

(c) reaction of compound of formula (V) with a compound of formula (VI)

B²

R¹-LG

(V)



(VI)

wherein A, X, R¹ and R² are as defined in Claim 1 and LG represents a leaving group;
and where necessary converting the resultant compound of formula (I), or another salt thereof, into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and where desired converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into an optical isomer thereof.

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11 (Amended). A process for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition which comprises mixing a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, as claimed in claim 1 with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier. --

Please add claim 26.

B⁴
--26 (New). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, as claimed in claim 8, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier. --